

Appl. No. 10/817,097
Amdt. dated January 24, 2006
Reply to Office action of December 28, 2005

Amendments to Drawings:

Applicant notes the acceptance of the new drawings with appreciation.

NEW DECLARATION

Applicant notes the acceptance of the new declaration with appreciation.

FEE STATEMENT

No additional fee is due because the number and type of newly added claims are the same as the number and type of originally presented, but now cancelled claims. Nevertheless, an appropriate authorization to charge or credit the deposit account of applicant's attorney is enclosed in the required duplicate original form -- to be used if necessary.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INTERVIEW

Applicant's attorney gratefully acknowledges the telephone interview read to him by Examiner Timothy D. Collins, on January 19, 2006. During that interview, Examiner Timothy D. Collins emphasized and suggested wording similar to that found in the specification. It is hoped that this amendment complies with the spirit and letter of that interview.

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, and 3 to 17 are in the application.

Claims 1 and 3 to 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. The amendments suggested by the Examiner have been made. The threaded rod has been clarified, as has the cap nut. A clarifying comma is inserted in the specification. Claims 18 to 20, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, have been canceled. Accordingly, the application believed allowable, and such action is requested.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, all rejections having been overcome by amendment or traversed by remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the instant application is respectfully requested. Applicant's attorney remains amenable to assisting the Examiner in the allowance of this application.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely notice be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited by facsimile to (571)273-8300 addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on or before January 24, 2006.


Mathew R. P. Perrone, Jr. -- Depositor

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